

PRINS BERNHARD CULTUURFONDS AWARDS

AWARDED TO CARLOS BISLIP



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Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Awards Awarded to Carlos Bislip



as an Aruban Musician.

ARUBA HAD 5 KNOWN 5 LAUREATES:

Glenda Heyliger for visual art, Ito Tromp and Eddie Tromp for their 40 years of 'Butishi Alegria', a cultural radio program, Oslin (Chin) Boekhoudt (r.i.p.) for theatre, Olga Buckley for promotion of reading 'Bon Nochi Drumi Dushi' and now, Carlos Bislip.

The musician and percussionist, Carlos Bislip was awarded for his great contribution to the development of music, compositions, promotion of Jazz, guide and encouragement of the student to continue in an advanced music study and for being the music director for the first complete Aruban Orchestra on the Unoca 25th anniversary and on the 25th anniversary of our Status Aparte. This is just a small summary of this great musician and what he means to Aruba.

The President of the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Dutch Caribbean, Michele Russel-Capriles, gave an eloquent speech explaining the symbol of the sculpture. She explained also that Carlos is well-known for his own new style of Latin-Aruban Jazz, his innovative ideas and his dedication to his students.



DURING the last plenary meeting of directors of the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Dutch Caribbean, the well-known musician, Carlos Bislip, received the prestigious Zilveren Anjer (Silver Carnation) Award which is awarded every other year in the Dutch Kingdom Islands.

Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds was founded in London in 1940 by Prince Bernhard, late grandfather of Willem Alexander, the present king, to buy war material for the British and Dutch Governments. It continued after the war as Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds aimed at rebuilding the war torn cultural life in The Netherlands. Headquartered on the Herengracht canal in Amsterdam, the foundation has 12 local branches, one in each of the Dutch provinces. There is also a separate Distribution Committee for projects in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. The foundation's mission is

to support cultural and nature preservation projects in The Netherlands and the Dutch Kingdom Islands. The Cultuurfonds emphasizes artistic excellence and educational initiatives.

Each year over 3,500 cultural and nature preservation projects are supported. These include town bands, the restoration of historic buildings and ships, dance performances, the preservation of unique cityscapes and landscapes, and scholarships for young artists and scholars to study abroad. The prestigious Zilveren Anjer (Silver Carnation) Awards, designed by the artist Hortence Brown, annually recognize individuals who have made extraordinary, voluntary contributions to Dutch cultural life and the environment.

Carlos Bislip was awarded with the Zilveren Anjer (Silver Carnation) Award for his valuable contribution

Acting Governor, Ella Tromp-Yarzagaray presented this prestigious award to Mr. Carlos Bislip followed by a small reception. Carlos gave a small speech where he expressed his great emotion for the award and he thanked those that meant a lot to him in his life as a musician. His son Carlito, who lives in the USA, surprised him with his presence at the event. Astrid Salazar, his first inspiration on the cultural field, and her husband, honored Carlos with their presence. His wife, mother and some families were also present for this prestigious moment. Some students and his friend and colleague, Ivan Quandus gave a very impressive concert of one hour.

For Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Dutch Caribbean, this was a very special occasion and all the members represented their country with much satisfaction. Next year it is the turn of Saint Marten.

Protest in The Hague:

JUSTICE FOR MITCH



ABOUT 300 protesters gathered yesterday at the Haagse Schilderswijk to manifest against the death of the Aruban Mitch Henriquez who died over the weekend after a violent confrontation with the police. After the death of Henriquez, there were calls for a protest on Social Media both in The Hague and Aruba.

During the protest you could hear the sound of roaring engines, sirens and fireworks popping. The protesters shouted 'murderers' to police. According to the protesters, there is an excessive increase of use of force by the police. The protesters kept a minute of silence for the deceased Mitch Henriquez. Protesters had flags of Aruba and t-shirts with text like 'I love Aruba'. The family of Mitch Henriquez and the whole community of Aruba and the Arubans all around the world want Justice for Mitch.

Evelyn Wever Croes

Health Tax increases with 1.5 percent on 1 July

LEADER of political party MEP, Evelyn Wever-Croes has announced that the 'democracy in the Parliament is quite ill', in response to the fact that the opposition only got a half-day to prepare to ask questions about the amendment of the Health Tax (BAZV). The new BAZV of 2.5 percent should be introduced on July 1st as planned. Due to this, the MEP party has written a letter to the Governor of Aruba.

Mrs. Croes stated in the letter that on June 24th at 3pm, they received the draft ordinance on the different premium changes and that they only had 24 hours to study and ask questions.

After insisting for more time to study the case, they got an extra half day. Croes has expressed her concern about how the allotted time isn't sufficient to review such a serious issue. She states in her letter to the governor that a draft ordinance of this magnitude cannot be studied in a few hours, let alone possible to produce

meaningful questions. This will have a great impact on the community.

The letter also stated that the MEP party has tried to explain this impact to vice President of Parliament, Mr. Chris Dammers. But that didn't help, because according to Croes, Dammers notified them that it wasn't possible to give more time, because it compromised the agenda of the government to implement these upcoming changes for July 1st.

Evelyn Croes considers this rapid introduction irresponsible. "In any case it is very irresponsible to make this change within two days, while the taxpayers (business owners) have not yet been informed. Although we can predict the outcome of the discussions, that does not mean that we should not be properly prepared," said Croes.



Age Bakker (Cft):

Good financial management of great importance for Bonaire

KRALENDIJK – The budget of Bonaire is pretty much on track, but does not yet sufficiently have what it takes to be used as a steering instrument, since substantial adaptations are made throughout the year. This is why Bonaire has the task to bring its financial management in a good shape. With the Executive Council it is agreed that all bottlenecks will be resolved by the end of 2016, the latest.

On June 23rd the Board of financial supervision Bonaire, Saintt Eustatius and Saba (Cft) had conversations with both the new Executive Council and the Island Council of Bonaire. The agreements made with Cft last year concerning the multiannual financial management improvement plan were discussed during said meetings. The 2014 budgetary result, the execution of the 2015 budget and the liquidity position of the public entity were also discussed.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The annual report on 2014,

which included a disclaimer of the accountant, was submitted on time, but took a lot of capacity and time, which caused delays in several other reporting procedures. The first execution report in 2015 was submitted with a delay of 5 weeks, because of which the government lacks for too long insight on the actual figures of the state of the public finance, making possible adjustments more difficult. In deliberation with Bonaire the Cft discussed how to improve this process. An important instrument to reach this goal is therefore the financial management improvement plan, which has in the meantime been actualized. This plan will have to conduce to an approving accountant's declaration over 2017. Bonaire has indicated that it will start an external improvement process to that effect, based on which by the end of 2015 the first results will have to be evident. The Cft has offered to advise on the matter, and to monitor the implementation of this plan in close consultation with the

government.

BUDGET AND LIQUIDITY

During the past year Bonaire had a positive result of USD 8 million which it was able to use to pay off according to scheme a number of loans taken out earlier. This result is somewhat higher than the budgeted result for 2014. For the current year Bonaire expects to end up with a positive result of more than USD 2,4 million, that can be used for paying off loans taken out at an earlier stage.

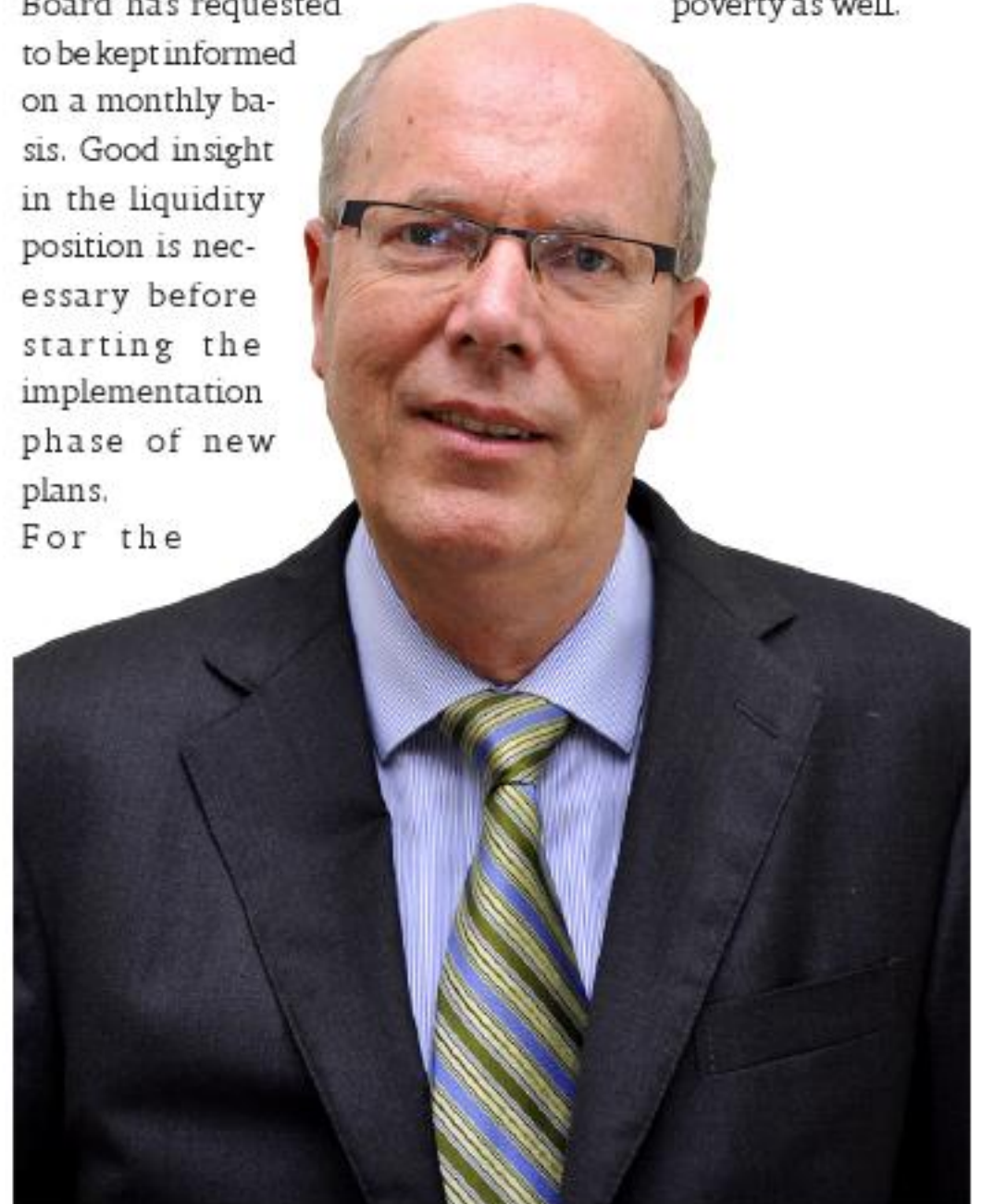
The first budget adaption shows substantial changes again for a total of USD 9 million (almost 20% of the budget). Changes of this size make the execution and the reporting process towards the Island Council more difficult. The Cft deliberated with the Executive Council about how to make the budgeting process more orderly so that the budget can indeed fulfill its role as a steering instrument. The Cft appreciates the ambition that the budget radiates.

In comparison with the beginning of this year, the liquidity position has somewhat decreased to a stand of USD 6,3 million as calculated per March 2015, which can be explained because of expenditures for projects financed with special payments (bijzondere uitkeringen). Bonaire was requested to monitor the development of the liquidity closely, allowing itself the space to intervene timely, should that be necessary. The Board has requested

to be kept informed on a monthly basis. Good insight in the liquidity position is necessary before starting the implementation phase of new plans.

For the

2016 budget Bonaire has the challenge to timely submit the draft budget, in which the multiannual plans as agreed on during the Caribbean Netherlands week have been included. The multiannual program 2015 – 2018 agreed on may give an important contribution to durable reinforcement of the economic growth potential of Bonaire, and with that, to the improvement of the purchasing power and the decrease of poverty as well.



Aruba demands 'thorough investigation'

THE leader of the opposition party in Aruba, Mrs. Evelyn Wever Croes, has written a letter to the Dutch government demanding a 'thorough investigation' into the death of 42 year-old Aruban Mitch Henriquez. He was arrested at a music festival in The Hague on Saturday.

The Aruban community, both on the island and in the Netherlands, is shocked by his death. The images and videos that have been circulating around Facebook, news

websites, and other social media sites have been shared multiple times and viewed by many.

Mrs. Evelyn Wever Croes acted swiftly, seeking information and action through her contact with the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, Mr. Ronald Plasterk, and Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba in Holland, Mr. J.A. Boekhoudt.

Evelyn stated: "As soon as we received

this cruel news, I contacted Mr. Plasterk and Mr. Boekhoudt. We sent a letter to them and to the Dutch Minister of Justice, Mr. Rutte, requesting them to start a thorough investigation on what really happened, and to inform us of the outcome as soon as possible. We cannot always prevent in justice, but we can fight for justice to prevail."

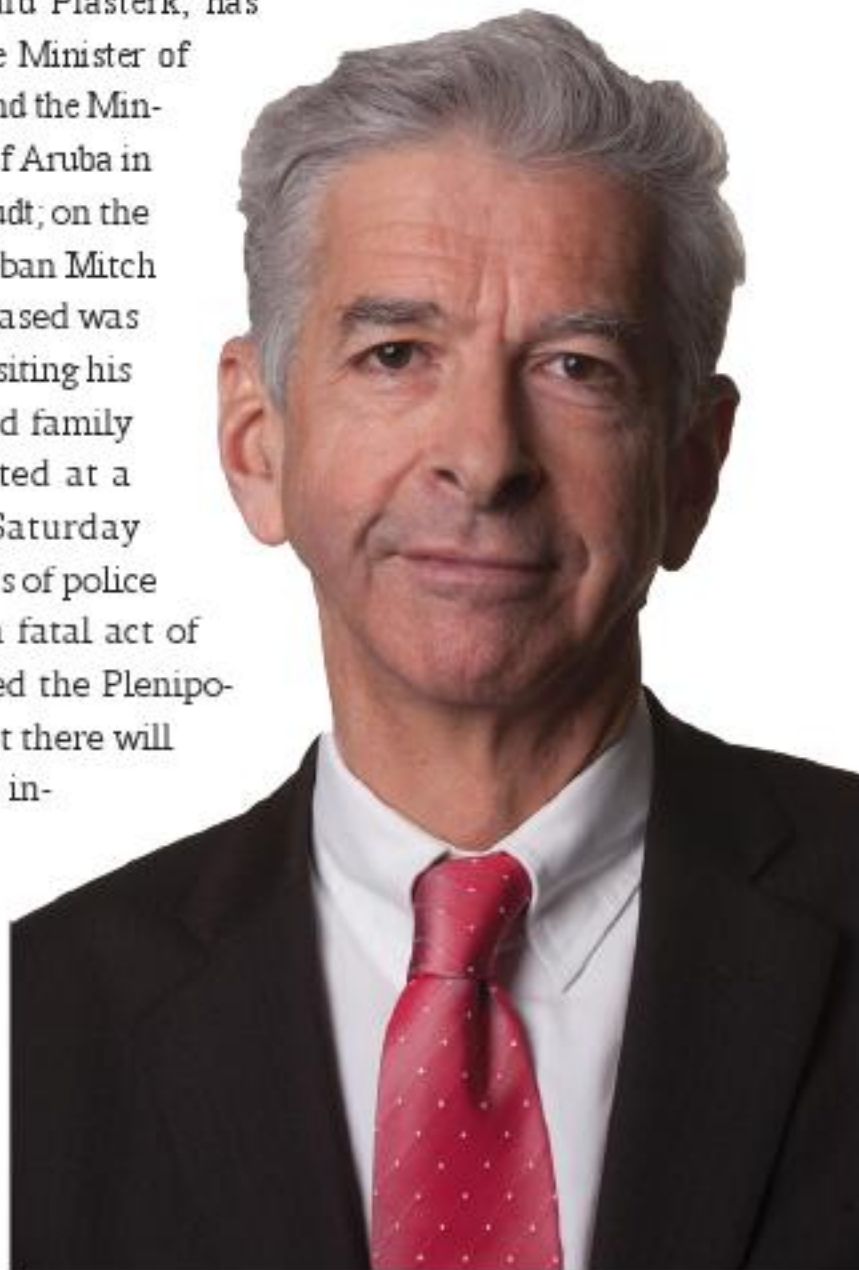
She concluded her thoughts and condolences with the following statement:

"We are waiting for a response to our letter so we can evaluate the next steps. The death of our friend Mitch shocked the whole community, and family and friends deserve to know the truth about what really happened.

The whole community deserves to know the truth, and we hope those responsible will be held accountable for their act. We wish the family of Mitch, his mother Maria, his sisters, his girlfriend, and his children, strength in these days of mourning. Rest in peace, Mitch".

Minister Plasterk: **Clarity will be provided soon**

MINISTER of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, Mr. Ronald Plasterk, has called upon the Prime Minister of Aruba, Mike Eman, and the Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba in Holland, J.A. Boekhoudt, on the death of 42-year Aruban Mitch Henriquez. The deceased was in the Netherlands visiting his children, friends, and family when he was arrested at a music festival on Saturday and died in the hands of police authorities during a fatal act of detention. He assured the Plenipotentiary Minister that there will be an independent investigation by the national department to clarify the course of events. He hopes that clarity can be provided soon.



Name of third suspect in money-laundering case revealed

THE name of the third suspect in the major money-laundering case, which came to light this week, is now known. According to attorney David Kock, the third suspect is R.G., who, according to reliable sources, was recently involved with the boat 'La Patrona' which is under inspection by the Coast Guards.

Under the boat, there was reportedly a secret compartment where the drugs were hidden. According to an anonymous source, G. had already been in prison for a long time for money-laundering.

Attorney Eline Hofman, is apparently assisting the suspect H.v.R. The magistrate of the Netherlands ordered the arrest of H.v.R., and it is highly likely that he will be transferred to the Netherlands.

The Public Prosecutor has not confirmed this information yet. The prosecution announced that during the search of the houses and business premises in Aruba, there was total of 3.9 million Euros that was found and seized.

The initials of the suspects in this case are R.H, H.v.R., and R.G. All three were arrested in Aruba.



Minister J.A. Boekhoudt **We are doing our best to assure justice**

MINISTER Plenipotentiary of Aruba in Holland, J.A. Boekhoudt, has informed the Aruban communities both in Holland and Aruba; about the unfortunate incident that took place on Saturday night at Zuiderpark, The Hague - which cost the life of an Aruban citizen, Mitch Henriquez.

Henriquez was in the Netherlands visiting his family for summer vacation. On Saturday, he attended a music festival held in The Hague, where he allegedly said he had a gun in his possession. The police then proceeded to arrest him and he resisted his arrest, whereby the police used force to get him to cooperate and transport him to the police station. On Sunday evening, we were informed that Mitch Henriquez died. The Dutch national detectives have begun an investigation into the arrest.

Upon hearing the news, Prime Minister, Mike Eman,

and Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba in Holland, Mr. J.A. Boekhoudt, ensured the Aruban government that a thorough investigation will be done on the case.

All details are still unknown, but one thing is sure - the family deserves to know exactly what happened on this day that involved the life of their loved one.

Minister J.A. Boekhoudt stated: "We understand the sadness and frustration that the family is going through and we are doing our best to assure that the truth will

come forth. We also made an appeal to all those who know what exactly happen or have evidence of what happened, to give collaboration to the authorities in this case. The government will stay in contact with the families."



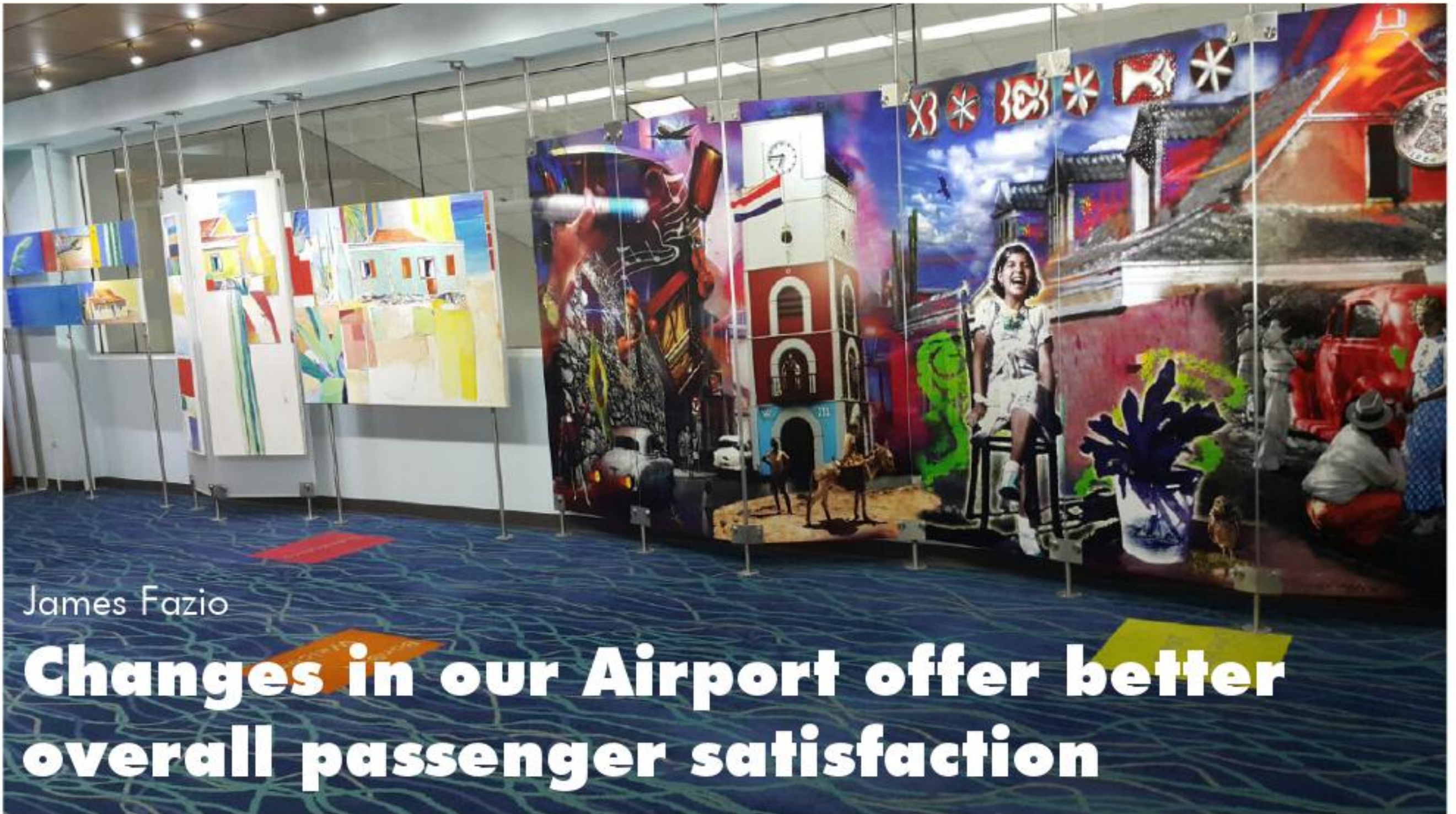
Green Corridor promises to change the island it's lifestyle

THE Green Corridor represents the biggest project ever in the history of our island. It will begin at the round-about in front of the airport and will expand all the way to San Nicolas. It includes a linear park at Pos Chiquito and a new bridge over Spaans Lagoen. Additionally, there will be a new lane exclusively for cycling. In association with the plan, there will also be two new roundabouts one at the crossing of Seroe Teishi, and the other at Mahuma/Balashi. Green Corridor will make the access to San Nicolas more efficient. However, the habitants of Savaneta, Pos Chiquito, and Cura Cabai will also benefit greatly from this development. This project will facilitate a better flow in traffic and transportation.

The economic impact of Green Corridor will be substantial. The connection between San Nicolas and Oranjestad will be greatly improved, which will also elevate the economic activities in San Nicolas and the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Green Corridor will not only be a simple project with some new roads. It is a fundamental project that will change not only the course of our island, but the way we live. It isn't just an infrastructure project for automobiles to travel from San Nicolas to Oranjestad, or from Barcadera to the hotels. The project is also focused on improving the quality of life in the following locations: Pos Chiquito, Seroe Alejandro, Yara, Savaneta, and San Nicolas. These locations will all be upgraded in infrastructure and public spaces, and the Green Corridor aims to extend its benefits to the upper end of the island.





James Fazio

Changes in our Airport offer better overall passenger satisfaction



THE Board of Directors of Queen Beatrix International Airport recently gave a building tour to Minister Otmar Oduber. It was a pleasure for the Airport executives to explain to the Minister the details of all the projects, and what the changes would mean to all users of the airport.

James Fazio stated: "Expansion and renovation of our Airport has been on the agenda for a long time. In the last 7 months, the work began so it could be completed on short term. The estimate cost of the complete project is estimated to be at least 86 million dollars."

Fazio added further: "The changes include improvements in the flow of the passengers, a more comfortable sphere in the whole area of our airport, and more efficient operations to reduce costs of the airlines. Changes in the baggage service will elevate the security to the [Transportation Security Administration \(TSA\)](#) standard, which is very important for the Queen Beatrix International Airport."

"Small projects like additional food booths and the WIFI project can be completed even before high season. Projects like the extension of the baggage claim area and the expansion of the gates are big projects that can take longer to be completed. Improvements in the security service for the client are the biggest changes" stated Fazio.

For Minister Otmar Oduber, it is very important for our airport to be the best in our region. The service we give to our visitors should be a unique experience from the moment they arrive at the airport until they leave. The Board of Directors understands the importance of tourism for Minister Oduber. He is very satisfied with the changes that are taking place.

Internal Auditor Training

July 2 and July 9, 2015

It is a requirement of Management Standards such as ISO9001, ISO14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 22000, Airport Standards like IOSA&ISAGO, Hospitality



Standards, Green Globe, Earth Check, Financial Standards, Hospital standards NIAZ & HKZ that Internal audits are carried out on a regular basis. An internal audit is an important tool to assess your organization and the effectiveness of your management system. This preserves the integrity of your management system. The results of the internal audit are a source for improvements. Performing internal audits requires specific knowledge and skill. All internal auditors are required to be adequately trained. The course addresses the Standard ISO 19011:2011 (Requirements for Internal Auditors).

This two-day certificated course meets the

requirements of all Management Standards for internal auditor training. The primary focus on this training will be on practice simulations with case studies and roleplay.

Note: Not an IRCA Registered course, but is recognized by all Certification Bodies as meeting the Auditor Training requirements. The audit training is intended for persons who work within the organization on which a standard or external requirement applies and carry out audits in the short term on the basis of this standard or to develop the knowledge of internal audit procedure. Register by E-mail at: info@qesh-aruba.com. Registration closes on July 1, 2015.

DON'T SHOP, ADOPT

Anima Rights Aruba is looking for a good family to adopt these cats

Only for serious animal loving person call or whatsapp: 593-5525 or visit our facebook page

Justin Peña

A nominee of Power of Youth



DURING the meeting with the counsellor of UNICEF, Mr. Nils Katsberg with the youth last week, another young man, Justin Peña was surprised with a nomination for the Power of Youth.

After the youth informed Mr. Katsberg about the different aspects for a different Aruba, Justin Peña, was called forward. He was nominated in the category of Art and Culture (Music). Justin is a very talented young man and he is always willing to play music in his free time. He is a volunteer who contributes with other young people in cultural festivals of our country, but he also has a great vision. He is preparing himself for a music conservatorium.

For all the musical experience he has developed at such a young age, he deserves to be nominated by Power of Youth, a project that is also recognized by the counsellor of UNICEF, Mr. Katsberg. Congratulations to Justin Peña and to his parents, Mildred and Franlin. Justin was surprised with the nomination and promised to continue with the good work. Minister of Culture, Mr. Paul Croes initiated this project and it is supervised by ATHA.



A **LUCKY** woman has found an 8.52 carat white diamond at Arkansas's Crater of Diamonds State Park after only 20 minutes of searching.

Shaped like an icicle, the 8.25-carat gem is the fifth-largest diamond found by a visitor to the state park since the site was established in 1972.

Bobbie Oskarson of Longmont, Colorado, found the diamond on June 24 in a couple of scoops she had dug from a small mound of dirt. Oskarson was in the southwest corner of the park's over 37-acre search field in an area known as the Pig Pen, aptly named because it is the muddiest part of the search area after a good rain.

At first she thought it might be a quartz crystal due to its elongated shape, but park staff later confirmed that she had found a diamond. She named the gem the Esperanza Diamond, both her niece's name and the Spanish word for "hope." Oskarson plans to keep the gem.

"Ms Oskarson's eight-and-a-half-carat diamond is absolutely stunning, sparkling with a metallic shine, and appears to be an unbroken, capsule-shaped crystal," Park Interpreter Waymon Cox said.

"It features smooth, curved facets, a characteristic shared by all unbroken diamonds from the Crater of Diamonds," Cox said.

Oskarson's find is the 227th diamond certified by park staff this year. Cox noted that more than 30 other diamonds have been found on the surface of the search area so far in 2015, due in part to frequent rains.

The search area at the Crater of Diamonds is the world's only diamond-producing site open to the public. The park's policy is finder-keepers.

Woman finds **8.52 CARAT DIAMOND** in Arkansas park





Remaining escaped NY state inmate Sweat **SHOT** and **IN CUSTODY**

DAVID Sweat, the remaining prison escapee on the run in northern New York, was shot by a state trooper and taken into custody on Sunday, after a 23-day manhunt that ended in the rain-drenched woods just south of the Canadian border.

Mr. Sweat, 35, a murderer who had been serving a sentence of life without parole, was in critical condition at Albany Medical Center late Sunday night, according to Dennis P. McKenna, the hospital's medical director.

The shooting occurred around 3:20 pm. after a State Police sergeant spotted a man jogging down a road, stopped to question him and recognized him as Mr. Sweat, said Superintendent Joseph A. D'Amico of the NY State Police. The sergeant, Jay Cook, told Mr. Sweat to come over to him, but instead Mr. Sweat turned and fled across a field toward the tree line, Mr. D'Amico said.

Sergeant Cook, a firearms instructor who was patrolling by himself, gave chase and finally opened fire, striking Mr. Sweat twice in the torso, because he realized the fugitive was going to make it to the woods and possibly disappear, Mr. D'Amico said.

More than 1,300 officers in rain-slicked gear helped tighten a cordon around Mr. Sweat on Sunday as the search focused in on 22 square miles of rugged terrain. The confrontation with Mr. Sweat took place two days after his partner Richard Matt, was shot and killed in the woods of Malone, N.Y.

"The nightmare is finally over," Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo said, speaking with Mr. D'Amico on Sunday evening surrounded by law enforcement officers at a news conference in Malone, marked by cheers and applause. "These were really dangerous, dangerous men." Mr. Sweat, who was spotted and captured within a few miles of the Canadian border, was unarmed and wearing camouflage clothes.

After a civilian prison employee, Joyce E. Mitchell, failed to meet them in her car, the two men were forced to run on foot over tough terrain. They found shelter in empty hunting cabins, but left telltale clues of their presence that helped a vast array of agencies — from the State Police to the United States Marshals to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to state Forest Rangers — home in on them over the last week.

It was not clear whether the men remained together the whole time, but they appeared to have been together recently enough that a discarded pepper shaker bearing Mr. Sweat's DNA was found by investigators over the weekend near the spot where Mr. Matt was killed on Friday.

Mr. D'Amico, of the State Police, said the men possibly used the pepper to throw off the scent of the search dogs, a ruse employed in the 1967 film "Cool Hand Luke."

"We did have difficulty tracking, so it was fairly effective in that respect," he said.

Greece

SHUTS BANKS

to prevent collapse in possible exit from Euro currency

BANKS in Greece stayed shut on Monday as officials scrambled to prevent the country's financial system from collapsing in panic. Account holders were also facing tough limits on what they can withdraw from ATMs, and trading in Greek stocks and bonds was also halted.

The measures were announced Sunday as Greece slid rapidly toward default and exit from the eurozone. European leaders are now facing one of the worst moments in the history of the euro. President Obama called German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Sunday, and the two agreed to take all steps to try to resolve the crisis.

The trigger for the rapid escalation in the crisis was the Greek government's decision late Friday to pull its

negotiators out of bailout talks.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras slammed a draft proposal from Europe and the International Monetary Fund, and said he would put it to the Greek people in a referendum on July 5.

Since then, European officials have been focusing their efforts on how to limit the damage.

Read Tsipras' statement accusing Europe of 'blackmail' The European Central Bank said Sunday it would provide no new emergency support to Greek banks.

It was forced to act because without a bailout in place, Greece is heading for default as early as Tuesday, and may ultimately have to leave the euro. The curbs on

banking imposed by Greece on Sunday are known as capital controls, which are used only at times of extreme stress in a banking system.

Greek officials said that banks will stay shut through July 6, and that daily withdrawals would be limited to 60 euros, or about \$67. The stock exchange will remain closed for the same period.

The country's banks have been bleeding billions of euros for months, even before the country's debt crisis took a dramatic turn for the worse this weekend, leading to long lines at ATMs in Athens.

Tourists should still have access to cash.

Visitors are not subject to the capital controls, and debt and credit cards issued abroad should function normally. Greece faces a critical deadline on Tuesday, when it must make a loan payment to the IMF. The country looks almost certain to default on that payment.

An extended bank shutdown and tough capital controls will likely wreak further havoc on the Greek economy by scaring away tourists and chilling commercial activity.

And with Greece unable to borrow from financial markets, and apparently unwilling to strike a deal with the only institutions prepared to lend it money, it will find itself sliding rapidly towards exit from the euro.





Kuwait officials say mosque suicide bomber was SAUDI NATIONAL

KUWAIT government officials have identified the suicide bomber behind an attack on a Shiite mosque as a Saudi national, after series of arrests in connection with the blast that left 26 dead. Friday's attack also wounded 227 worshippers in the first bombing of a mosque in the tiny Gulf state and Kuwait's security services have vowed to catch and punish those responsible. The Islamic State group's Saudi affiliate, the so-called Najd Province, claimed the bombing and identified the assailant as Abu Suleiman al-Muwahhid. In a statement, Kuwait's interior ministry gave the real name of the attacker as Fahd Suleiman Abdulmohsen al-Qaba'a, born in 1992. It said that he entered the country through Kuwait Airport at dawn on Friday, the same day of the bombing. Earlier on Sunday, the ministry said that security services arrested the driver of the car that transported the bomber to the Al-Imam Al-Sadeq mosque in Kuwait City. He was named as Abdulrahman Sabah Eidan Saud, 26, and described as an "illegal resident,"

the term Kuwait uses for stateless people locally known as bidoons. Authorities on Saturday arrested the car owner, Jarrah Nimr Mejbil Ghazi, born in 1988, and also listed as a stateless person. Security services have also detained the owner of a house used as a hideout by the driver, describing the owner as a Kuwaiti national who subscribes to "extremist and deviant ideology". Kuwait's Oil Minister Ali al-Omair said the government will examine on Monday new security legislation. "The cabinet will discuss this issue Monday," said Omair when asked about a government plan to introduce anti-terror legislation. Several MPs have said they will pass any such legislation needed to crack down on extremists. "If they need more legislation, we are prepared in order to strike at the elements of evil and terrorism," Shiite MP Abdulhameed



Dashti said in a statement. The cabinet announced after an emergency meeting on Friday that all security agencies and police had been put on alert to confront what it called "black terror". Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister Yacoub al-Sane said additional security

measures will be taken around mosques and places of worship. Friday's suicide bombing coincided with an attack claimed by ISIS on a tourist beach resort in Tunisia that killed 38 people.



French beheading SUSPECT denies jihad motivation

THE man being held in France under suspicion of beheading his boss and trying to blow up a chemicals plant has told investigators there was no religious motivation behind the attack, a source close to the inquiry said.

The source said Yassin Salhi, 35, told investigators he was not a jihadist and repeated earlier statements that he committed the act outside the southeast city of Lyon on Friday after a row with his wife the day before and his boss a few days earlier.

Tunisia ATTACK:

Suspects connected to gunmen at Sousse arrested

TUNISIA has arrested a group of people over the massacre of 38 people, mainly tourists, by a gunman at the beach resort of Sousse on Friday, the country's interior minister has said. Mohamed Gharsalli said 1,000 troops would now be deployed to protect the country's beach resorts. Three European ministers have laid flowers at the scene of the attack in a sign of solidarity.

Islamic State (IS) has said it was behind the attack. At least 30 of the dead were reportedly from the UK. "We have started by arresting a first group, a significant number of people, from the network that was behind this terrorist criminal," said Mr Gharsalli, referring to gunman Seifeddine Rezgui, the Tunisian student who carried out Friday's attack. Tunisian authorities say he was the only attacker, but he had accomplices who provided him with weapons and logistical support, reports AP news agency.

"We are friends against one enemy," said the interior minister, addressing his counterparts from the UK, Germany and France. British Home Secretary Theresa May described Friday's attack as "a despicable act of cruelty". The gunman Rezgui came onto the beach from the sea either by jet ski or speedboat around midday on Friday. He started shooting on the beach, entered the Hotel Imperial Marhaba and ran out of the front of the hotel before the police shot him dead. Friday's attack was the deadliest in Tunisia's recent history. In March, militants killed 22 people, mainly foreigners, at the Bardo museum in the capital Tunis.

Tunisian authorities say army reservists will be deployed to tourist sites and that about 80 mosques accused of inciting violence will be closed within a week.



Why Today, June 30th is One Second longer than normal days

ON Tuesday, June 30, the Earth will get a bonus second as a way to compensate for the gradual slowing down of the Earth's rotation. For all those who wish there were more time in the day, your prayers have been answered. Today June 30th, the Earth gets a bonus second as a way to compensate for the gradual slowing down of the Earth's rotation. At 8 pm, Eastern Time, the entire planet will relax for one extra second longer. Time will stand still. Just for a second -- a leap second. Instead of the customary, 86,400-second Earth rotation, today it will make the day 86,401 seconds long. This Leap seconds were introduced to keep our

notion of time in line with an ongoing slowdown in Earth's rotation, caused by volcanoes, earthquakes and other natural phenomena. While that slowing rotation is extraordinarily gradual, over long periods it adds up to notable chunks of time, potentially throwing our concept of time off from Earth's day-and-night cycle — or even seasonal schedules. The "leap second" attempts to rectify this by inserting an extra second into a day to give the Earth time to "catch up" to where it's supposed to be based on the traditional solar cycle. The leap second was established as an international standard in 1972, and there have been 25 such seconds added since that year.



NBC Universal CUTS TIES with Donald Trump



NBC Universal, under pressure from an array of Hispanic groups, is severing its business ties to presidential candidate Donald Trump.

The Miss USA pageant, scheduled for July 12, will no longer air on the network. Nor will the Miss Universe pageant, scheduled for next January. Both pageants were, until now, jointly owned by NBC and Trump.

"At NBC, respect and dignity for all people are cornerstones of our values," the company said in a statement on Monday. "Due to the recent derogatory statements by Donald Trump regarding immigrants, NBC Universal is ending its business relationship with Mr. Trump."

Speaking to reporters after a campaign event in Chicago, Trump said he had enjoyed a "great" relationship with NBC but would not back down on his views about immigration.

It is also unclear where, if anywhere, the Miss USA pageant might be televised instead of NBC.

Contestants from across the country have been preparing for months for the annual event. The other major television broadcaster of the pageant, Univision, cancelled it last week due to Trump's involvement.

Monday's announcement by NBC followed a weekend's worth of legal conversations within the network, given the long-standing contractual relationship with Trump. The joint ownership of the pageants dates back more than a decade.

Eventually network executives decided that the split had to happen.

Hispanic advocates were calling for action

The Miss USA controversy stemmed from comments Trump made during his presidential campaign announcement two weeks ago. "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best... They're sending people who have lots of problems," Trump said in the speech. "They're bringing drugs,

they're bringing crime, they're rapists, and some, I assume, are good people."

These remarks caused a firestorm and widespread condemnation, particularly in the Hispanic community. Univision, the biggest Spanish-language broadcaster in the United States, decided to end a five-year contract to air Miss USA and Miss Universe after only five months.

NBC was in a more complicated position because it jointly owned the pageants.

The network initially responded with a statement saying that Trump's opinions "do not represent those of NBC, and we do not agree with his positions on a number of issues, including his recent comments on immigration."

But that attempt to distance the network from Trump did not satisfy some Hispanic leaders.

Over the weekend, a large number of Hispanic advocacy organizations urged NBC to follow Univision's lead, which the company did.

'I thought I was dying,'

Avril Lavigne says of Lyme disease fight

WHEN singer Avril Lavigne went missing from the music scene, there was tons of speculation. Was she pregnant? In rehab? Going through a split from her husband, Nickelback front man Chad Kroeger?

Focus on the mystery intensified in

December after a fan Twitter account posted a direct message from Lavigne when she solicited prayers, saying she was "having some health issues."

Now the Canadian singer has revealed that she was bedridden for five months after contracting Lyme

disease.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks. Typical symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and a characteristic skin rash. If left untreated, infection can spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system.

"I felt like I couldn't breathe, I couldn't talk, and I couldn't move," she told the magazine. "I thought I was dying."

Lavigne believes that she was bitten by a tick last spring. What followed was months of lightheadedness and lethargy that doctors were initially unable to diagnose.

The 30-year-old performer said she recuperated in her Ontario home,

where her husband would use tour breaks to care for her and her mother moved in to assist.

"There were definitely times I couldn't shower for a full week because I could barely stand," she stated. "It felt like having all your life sucked out of you." After her direct message about her health went viral, Lavigne was inundated with concern from fans. "The get-well messages and videos they sent touched me so deeply," she said.

Now declaring herself "80 percent better," Lavigne is releasing a new single this month to support the 2015 Special Olympics and says that being ill was a "wake-up call" that has given her a new perspective.

"I really just want to enjoy life from here on out," she said.



Eurosport WINS Olympic TV rights for Europe

THE European television rights for the Olympic Games have been awarded to Eurosport and its parent channel in a 1.3 Billion Euros deal.

It means the BBC could lose coverage of the Games in the UK from 2022, although Eurosport's parent company Discovery may lease back some of the rights.

The European rights are currently split up, country by country. The deal will be effective for most of Europe from 2018, and in France and the UK from 2022.

Discovery and Eurosport confirmed they will develop a new Olympic TV Channel across Europe. Media watchdog Ofcom lists the Olympics as a "Category A" event, which must have live coverage made available to free-to-air channels.

In a statement, Discovery said it was committed to broadcasting a minimum of 200 hours of the Olympic Games and 100 hours of the Olympic Winter Games on free-to-air television, during the games period.

The 2016 Olympics will be held in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil and the 2018 Winter Olympics will be

Pyeongchang, South Korea, while 2020's event will take place in Tokyo, Japan.

The host city for the 2022 Winter Olympics will be announced at the end of July.



English boxer Amir Khan says

Mayweather might dilute his own legacy



PROFESSIONAL English boxer Amir Khan believes Floyd Mayweather Jr is in danger of 'messaging his own legacy up' if he continues to refuse to fight him.

The unbeaten American (48-0-0-KO26) beat Manny Pacquiao in May and claims he will fight for the final time on September 12 - naming Andre Berto and Karim Mayfield as the leading candidates for his ring farewell.

Khan (31-3-0-KO19) has made no secret of his desire to secure a big-money clash with 38-year-old Mayweather but has thus far been rebuffed, although two weeks ago, the Bolton fighter revealed he had been involved in a heated exchange with Floyd Mayweather Sr.

Khan stated: "We've been talking to Al Haymon and hopefully we'll find out in a week what's going to happen. Mayweather wants to fight on September 12 and I'll be ready for that date. "Floyd says he thinks he needs an easy fight now because he's proved himself by beating Pacquiao. He wants to fight Andre Berto and Karim Mayfield. No disrespect to those two because they're good fighters and good friends of mine too."

"I think he's messaging his own legacy up. He needs to finish on a high. What he's probably going to do is leave the game on a low and I think that's the worst thing to do.

"I spoke to his father and he says it'd be an easy fight if Mayweather fought me. If it'd be so easy then why not do it?"

"Mayweather hasn't announced who he wants to fight yet. He's mentioned a few names but mine should've been in there because it's a fight that the fans want and it's a fight that would make big money."

One man who is chasing a bout with Khan is unbeaten IBF world welterweight champion Kell Brook, who looks set to defend his belt against Brandon Rios on the same September date.

Khan, however, remains adamant the Sheffield fighter has not earned the right to call him out.

The Olympic silver medallist added: "When the question comes to me, why don't you fight Kell Brook? My body's taken wear and tear fighting all the top guys, the world champions so why isn't Kell doing that? Why should I give him this big pay day he's after?"

"My name gets mentioned among Mayweather and Pacquiao - that's the level I'm at. If I was him, I'd be chasing after guys like Timothy Bradley, who refused to fight me. Kell Brook needs to fight some decent names first and then he can have that big fight against me.

"Let him build his name, let him prove himself and let people say he's untouchable and then I'll come beat him. We're both the same age, young and hungry and I've done a lot more in my career. I believe he has to step it up a little bit.

"It'd be a big fight in the UK and I know the fans want it but this is all about timing. He needs to prove himself at world level. Even Brandon Rios is a lightweight really."